

We claim:

1. A canister for a metered dose inhaler having part or all of its internal surfaces coated with one or more fluorocarbon polymers, optionally in combination with one or more non-fluorocarbon polymers, said canister having a wall with a thickness in the range 0.55 mm to 1.00mm.

2. A canister according to Claim 1, wherein the wall is 0.55 to 0.70mm in thickness.

3. A canister according to Claim 2, wherein the wall is 0.60mm in thickness.

4. A canister according to Claim 1, wherein said fluorocarbon polymer is selected from PTFE, PFA, FEP and mixtures thereof.

5. A canister according to Claim 1, wherein said fluorocarbon polymer is in combination with a non-fluorocarbon polymer selected from polyamideimide and polyethersulphone.

6. A metered dose inhaler comprising a canister according to Claim 1.

7. A metered dose inhaler according to Claim 6, containing a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation.

8. An inhaler according to Claim 6, wherein said formulation comprises fluticasone propionate or a physiologically acceptable solvate thereof in combination with a bronchodilator or an antiallergic.

9. An inhaler according to Claim 8, wherein said drug formulation comprises fluticasone propionate in combination with salmeterol xinafoate.

10. An inhaler according to Claim 9, wherein said formulation consists essentially of fluticasone propionate or a physiologically acceptable solvate

thereof, optionally in combination with one or more other pharmacologically active agents, and a fluorocarbon propellant.

11. An inhaler according to Claim 6, wherein the fluorocarbon propellant is 1,1,1,2- tetrafluoroethane, or 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoro-n-propane or mixtures thereof.

12. An inhaler according to Claim 11, wherein the fluorocarbon propellant is 1,1,1,2- tetrafluoroethane.

13. A metered dose inhaler system comprising a metered dose inhaler according to Claim 6 fitted into suitable channelling device for oral or nasal inhalation of the drug formulation.

14. A metered dose inhaler system comprising:  
a canister for a metered dose inhaler having part or all of its internal surfaces coated with one or more fluorocarbon polymers, optionally in combination with one or more non-fluorocarbon polymers, said canister having a wall with a thickness in the range 0.55 mm to 1.00mm, said canister including a mouth;  
a crimped cap covering the mouth of the canister;  
a drug metering valve situated in the cap; and  
a channelling device;  
wherein the inhaler system includes a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation therein, said pharmaceutical aerosol formulation comprising drug optionally in combination with one or more pharmacologically active agents.

15. A metered dose inhaler system according to Claim 14 wherein said formulation comprises fluticasone propionate.

16. A metered dose inhaler system according to Claim 14 wherein said formulation comprises albuterol sulphate.

17. A metered dose inhaler system according to Claim 14, wherein said formulation comprises fluticasone propionate or a physiologically acceptable solvate thereof in combination with a bronchodilator or an antiallergic.

5 18. A metered dose inhaler system according to Claim 14, wherein said drug formulation comprises fluticasone propionate in combination with salmeterol xinafoate.

10 19. A metered dose inhaler system according to Claim 14, wherein said formulation consists essentially of fluticasone propionate or a physiologically acceptable solvate thereof, optionally in combination with one or more other pharmacologically active agents, and a fluorocarbon propellant.

15 20. A metered dose inhaler system according to Claim 19, wherein the fluorocarbon propellant is 1,1,1,2- tetrafluoroethane, or 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoro-n-propane or mixtures thereof.

20 21. A metered dose inhaler system according to Claim 19, wherein the fluorocarbon propellant is 1,1,1,2- tetrafluoroethane.

22. A method of administering at least one active ingredient to a patient comprising:

providing a metered dose inhaler as defined by Claim 6; and

25 activating the metered dose inhaler to deliver a pharmaceutically effective amount of the at least one active ingredient to the patient.